

**MINUTES OF THE
MARICOPA ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS
REGIONAL COUNCIL MEETING**

July 30, 1997
MAG Office
302 North 1st Avenue, Suite 300
Phoenix, Arizona

MEMBERS ATTENDING

Mayor Elaine Scruggs, Glendale, Chairman	Councilmember Sara Moya, Paradise Valley
Mayor Tom Morales, Avondale	Councilmember Ken Forgia for Mayor
Mayor Mike Baker, Buckeye	John Keegan, Peoria
Mayor Hugh Stevens, Carefree	Vice Mayor Peggy Bilsten for Mayor Skip
Mayor Tom Augherton, Cave Creek	Rimsza, Phoenix
Councilmember Martin Sepulveda for Mayor	Mayor Mark Schnepf, Queen Creek
Jay Tibshraeny, Chandler	*President Ivan Makil, Salt River Pima-
* Mayor Maggie Reese, El Mirage	Maricopa Indian Community
Councilmember Marianne Wiggishoff	Mayor Sam Campana, Scottsdale
for Mayor Jerold Miles, Fountain Hills	*Mayor Joan Shafer, Surprise
Mayor Chuck Turner, Gila Bend	Mayor Neil Giuliano, Tempe
Governor Mary Thomas, Gila River Indian	Mayor Adolfo Gamez, Tolleson
Community	Mayor Dallas Gant, Wickenburg
Mayor Cynthia Dunham, Gilbert	Vice Mayor Donald Needham for Mayor
Mayor Bill Arnold, Goodyear	William Kosanovich, Youngtown
Mayor Frances Osuna, Guadalupe	F. Rockne Arnett, ADOT
Vice Mayor Bert Van Wagner for Mayor	*Chuck Coughlin, Citizens Transportation
Richard Vasiloff, Litchfield Park	Oversight Committee
Supervisor Don Stapley, Maricopa County	
Mayor Wayne Brown, Mesa	

*Those members neither present nor represented by proxy.

1. Call to Order

The meeting of the Regional Council was called to order by Chairman Elaine Scruggs at 5:05 p.m.

Chairman Scruggs welcomed everyone to the new location. She informed all members that we are using a new microphone system which is voice activated. Chairman Scruggs noted that the new microphone system will pick up any side conversations.

Chairman Scruggs introduced the following proxies: Councilmember Martin Sepulveda for Mayor Jay Tibshraeny from the City of Chandler, Councilmember Marianne Wiggishoff for Mayor Jerry Miles from the Town of Fountain Hills, Vice Mayor Bert Van Wagner for Mayor Dick Vasiloff from the City

of Litchfield Park, Councilmember Ken Forgia for Mayor John Keegan from the City of Peoria, Vice Mayor Peggy Bilsten for Mayor Skip Rimsza from the City of Phoenix and Vice Mayor Donald Needham for Mayor Bill Kasanovich from the Town of Youngtown.

Chairman Scruggs announced that if you have used the Norwest Bank garage, parking validation is available following the meeting from the MAG staff. Chairman Scruggs indicated that RPTA has generously agreed to provide transit tickets for individuals who used the bus to get to the Regional Council meeting. She stated that tickets are available following the meeting from Ken Driggs from the RPTA.

2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Approval of June 25, 1997 Meeting Minutes

Mayor Mark Schnepf moved, Councilmember Sara Moya seconded, and it was unanimously carried to approve the minutes of the June 25, 1997 Regional Council meeting.

4. Call to the Audience
5. Showcase Agency

Chairman Scruggs stated that the showcase tonight will be the Town of Queen Creek. Chairman Scruggs introduced Mayor Mark Schnepf to share with the Regional Council information about his community. Mayor Schnepf thanked the members of Regional Council. He then introduced Councilmember June Calender, Councilmember Tom Murch, Councilmember Wendy Feldman-Kerr and City Manager Cynthia Seelhammer.

Mayor Schnepf stated that Mayor Rimsza once called Queen Creek “the little town that could.” Mayor Schnepf stated that Queen Creek was incorporated in 1989 and is located in the southeast corner of Maricopa County with Mesa on the north and Gilbert on the west. The population of Queen Creek is 3500.

Mayor Schnepf stated that the town began as a dusty stage coach stop in the 1860's. Settlement and farming began in the early 1900's. Mayor Schnepf stated that the crops included cotton, alfalfa, potatoes, vegetables and citrus. Mayor Schnepf informed members of a little know fact, that Queen Creek is the potato capital of Arizona.

Mayor Schnepf stated that farming is still big in Queen Creek but it's taking on a new direction called direct marketing, entertainment farming, and agri-tourism. He explained that farms are opening up to the public and offering an opportunity to experience a real working farm.

Mayor Schnepf stated that Queen Creek hosts a number of family-oriented festivals. At the annual potato festival, kids enjoy an old fashion potato sack race, petting farm animals, jumping on a haystack or savoring homemade peach ice-cream. Mayor Schnepf noted the annual Christmas parade where the whole community comes out to enjoy floats, tractors and horseback riders. Queen Creek's

largest event is Country Thunder USA. Mayor Schnepf stated that this is a four-day country music festival attracting over 100,000 people.

Mayor Schnepf explained that shortly after incorporation, the citizens of Queen Creek developed an award winning general plan that offers a balance of residential, commercial and industrial development. Although keeping a rural character is top priority, smaller lot development, that may be more affordable or easier to maintain than acre lots, is not excluded. Mayor Schnepf stated that Queen Creek is currently working on revising all development standards to encourage a small town feel.

Mayor Schnepf stated that bridges built in Queen Creek combine function with art. This was a joint project with Maricopa County and received national recognition. Mayor Schnepf stated that Queen Creek is experiencing new development and will continue to do so especially when the first waste water collection system comes on line.

Mayor Schnepf stated that Queen Creek is named after the Queen Creek Wash which runs diagonally across the community. The Wash is one of the main features in Queen Creek's park and trail system that will serve the entire community and link all schools, parks, neighborhoods and the downtown area together.

Mayor Schnepf stated that Town Hall is the anchor of the town center area. He explained that the town purchased the building, a former Mormon Church built in the 1940's, shortly after incorporation in 1989. Renovations continue on both the building and the grounds.

Mayor Schnepf stated that Queen Creek is very much a contract city with police protection provided by the Maricopa County Sheriff's Office and emergency services by Rural Metro. He also noted that baseball and softball are an important element in the ever growing parks and recreation department. Mayor Schnepf stated that construction will begin on the first youth center this year.

Mayor Schnepf stated that Queen Creek is pleased to host the Arizona Boys Ranch which has been in the area since the 1950's. This residential facility provides education, job training and guidance of over 200 young men from around the country.

Mayor Schnepf stated that Queen Creek is pleased to be partners with the City of Mesa, Gilbert and the Gila River Indian Community in managing Williams Gateway Airport. He explained that this is a 4000-acre reliever to Phoenix Sky Harbor. Mayor Schnepf noted that this project is expected to create 17,000 high paying jobs for the valley over the next 20 years.

Mayor Schnepf stated that Queen Creek has a colorful past and an exciting future. He extended an invitation to visit Queen Creek during one of its many community events.

4. Call to the Audience

Chairman Scruggs stated that because of the new location and possible confusion of the public, she will return to the Call to the Audience section of the agenda. Chairman Scruggs noted that this is not something Regional Council normally does. Chairman Scruggs introduced Mr. Bill Peters.

Mr. Bill Peters of 817 W. Suncoast Drive, Gilbert Arizona, suggested to the Regional Council that freeway traffic lights should be streamlined to reduce traffic congestion. Mr. Peters stated that the Superstition Freeway is not very streamlined at its exit ramps. He suggested that changing the timing would reduce waiting time and congestion as per his study. Mr. Peters stated that 1.1 million hours are spent in driving time in the east valley. He briefly explained how he arrived at that figure.

Chairman Scruggs suggested that Mr. Peters speak to ADOT representatives who are in attendance at tonight's meeting. Chairman Scruggs thanked Mr. Peters for his comments.

6. Executive Directors Report

James M. Bourey stated that he would like to recognize three of many people who worked very hard in MAG's office relocation: Monique de los Rios who designed the office and conference room floor plans, Paul Ward who provided invaluable work on the office furniture and purchasing, and Dennis Smith who provided tremendous insight and hard work in the overall move.

Mr. Bourey informed the Regional Council of a feasibility study to do a high-speed rail line from Phoenix to Tucson. The anticipated date for the study completion is November 30, 1997. Mr. Bourey stated that he will continue to inform the Regional Council of any future developments on this project.

Mr. Bourey stated that on July 18, 1997, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) published the new air quality standards for particulate matter and ozone. An Interim Implementation Policy will follow in September 1997 to provide guidance on compliance with the new standards. The current particulate standard PM-10 will remain unchanged and a new standard for fine particulate PM 2.5 will be added. Mr. Bourey noted that the Maricopa County Environmental Services Department operates the official air quality monitoring network, and is currently analyzing the impact of the new standards in this area. It appears that there would be no violations of the new 24-hour standard and only one monitor may exceed the new annual standard. Mr. Bourey stated that the EPA will begin a five-year effort to build an adequate monitoring network for the new particulate standard.

Mr. Bourey informed the Regional Council that the current ozone standard will be changed to a more stringent concentration. According to the Maricopa County analysis of the monitoring network, it appears that the monitors located in the northern and eastern portions of the region may exceed the new ozone standard. Mr. Bourey noted that nationwide there are 106 counties which do not meet the current ozone standard. The new ozone standard may add another 229 counties, which would increase the total list of non attainment areas to 335.

Mr. Bourey discussed the Census 2000. He stated that the allocation of billions of dollars in federal and state revenues will be based on the census count. Mr. Bourey noted that there are some changes in the survey itself. Some questions will be eliminated and others will move from the short form to the long form.

Mr. Bourey stated that a pre census local review would replace the traditional post census review. Under this program, member agencies will review a list of addresses by block within their jurisdiction and then provide the Census Bureau with any corrections to the addresses. Mr. Bourey added that it would be crucial for member agencies to develop a plan for reviewing the address list. It should include the acquisition of appropriate computer equipment and software, as well as the allocation of adequate staff and financial resources.

Mr. Bourey stated that there is a major unresolved issue. The last census clearly had an under count and a decision was made not to adjust the count. Mr. Bourey stated that the Census Bureau proposed that a statistical adjustment to the Census 2000 count be made so there would be a more accurate count. Mr. Bourey stated that MAG member agencies need to allocate adequate staff for this project and identify a contact to coordinate with the Census Bureau.

Mr. Bourey reported that a Census 2000 meeting would be held on August 8, 1997 from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon at the Scottsdale Public Library. He continued that Dr. Martha Farnsworth-Riche, Director of the Census Bureau, would be making a presentation on how the public and private sectors should work together to achieve the best census count possible.

Mr. Bourey noted that a Regional Freeway Audit will be released within the coming weeks. One of the recommendations of the audit is that an additional \$115 million in funds will be available, in the later years of the program, for additional roadways. Mr. Bourey stated that he will keep Regional Council informed.

Mr. Bourey stated that Arizona State University Center for Environmental Studies received an EPA grant for \$2.5 million. He explained that the purpose of this grant is to understand the impacts of urban growth on our ecosystem.

Mr. Bourey noted that staff is distributing information on the Arizona Works Procurement Board Pilot Program. Additional information will follow under agenda item number 15.

Mr. Bourey introduced and welcomed new MAG employees: Gordon Tyus, Graphics Specialist; Drenan Dudley, Environmental Planner; Mike Golden, Environmental Planner and Art Rullo, Fiscal Services Manager.

Chairman Scruggs thanked Mr. Bourey and asked if members had any questions.

7. Approval of Consent Agenda

Chairman Scruggs stated that agenda items number 8, 9, 10, 11 and 12 are listed on the consent agenda. Chairman Scruggs asked if any member wished to remove any consent item. No member responded.

Mayor Schnepf moved, Mayor Turner seconded, and it was unanimously carried to approve items 8, 9, 10, 11 and 12 on the consent agenda.

Councilmember Sara Moya stated that she would like the record to show that Paradise Valley pays taxes to the county for a library system but does not have a public library.

8. Enhancement Funds Working Group Round V Recommendations

The Regional Council approved by consent, to forward the Enhancement Funds Working Group ranked list of applications to the Arizona Department of Transportation. On June 16, 1997, the Transportation Enhancement Funds Working Group recommended a ranked list of applications for Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act Enhancement Funds. This year, six applications were received for local funds, totaling \$1.23 million for \$4.0 million available statewide. Three applications for state funds were received totaling \$1.55 million for \$3.0 million available statewide. These recommendations are provided to the Arizona Department of Transportation Enhancement Review Committee. The Management Committee concurred with the recommendations of the Enhancement Funds Working Group.

9. Consultant Selection for 1997 MAG Regional Congestion Study

The Regional Council approved by consent, contracting with Transit Research and Analysis Inc. (TRA) for an amount not to exceed \$307,956 to conduct the 1997 MAG Regional Congestion Study. In May 1997, the Regional Council approved the FY 1998 MAG Unified Planning Work Program which includes a congestion study. The purpose of the study is to provide traffic congestion data for the MAG planning process. The data will be used to ensure that the MAG transportation models are accurately representing congestion, to provide input into regional transportation studies, and to provide information for traffic studies and road design. The last congestion study was conducted in 1988/1989. A Request for Proposal was advertised and one proposal was received. A multi agency group reviewed the proposal and interviewed the consultant. The review group is recommending that Traffic Research & Analysis Inc. be selected to conduct the Congestion Study for an amount not to exceed \$307,956. The Management Committee concurred with this recommendation.

10. Approval of Draft 2025-2050 MAG Resident Population in Group Quarters by Municipal Planning Area and Regional Analysis Zone

The Regional Council approved by consent, the Draft 2025-2050 MAG projections of resident population in group quarters by Municipal Planning Area and Regional Analysis Zone. In June, the Regional Council approved the MAG socioeconomic projections, including resident population in group quarters from 2000-2020. Group quarters refers to non household living quarters such as

dormitories, prisons and nursing homes. Subsequently, staff has prepared projections of resident population in group quarters from 2025-2050. On June 26, 1997, the MAG Population Technical Advisory Committee recommended approval of the 2025-2050 group quarters population projections. The Management Committee concurred with this recommendation.

11. Short-term Working Capital Loan Agreement Between the City of Phoenix and MAG

The Regional Council approved by consent, the authorization for the MAG Executive Director to enter into a loan agreement between MAG and the City of Phoenix to provide interim funding for operating and payroll expenses at a maximum interest rate of 5.25 percent for a maximum loan amount not to exceed \$500,000. Funding for MAG activities is included each year in the Unified Planning Work Program. Historically, a large portion of the funding for MAG has been provided by federal sources on a reimbursement basis. In the past, salaries for MAG were provided through the League of Arizona Cities and Towns. This staffing arrangement assisted MAG in meeting its short-term cash flow needs while federal reimbursements were being processed. The likelihood of a temporary cash flow shortfall or a need for short-term borrowing has heightened due to the transition of the payroll from the League to MAG. To alleviate the impact of a cash flow shortfall, the City of Phoenix has offered to enter into a short-term working capital loan agreement with MAG. The loan agreement would be for a maximum of \$500,000, and interest would be charged only for the portion used. The maximum rate of interest would be 5.25 percent. This rate reflects the City's foregone interest earnings on the cash advanced to MAG. It is anticipated that this would serve as a standby loan arrangement to be repaid periodically if it is drawn upon. The Management Committee recommended authorizing the loan agreement.

12. Regional Master Plan for Local Government Libraries

The Regional Council approved by consent the acceptance of the Maricopa County Library Master Plan. On October 26, 1994, the Regional Council approved the report, Funding Local Government Libraries FY 1993-FY 2000. One of the recommendations in the report was for the development of a regional library master plan for public libraries. On March 20, 1997, the Maricopa County Library Council approved the Maricopa County Library Master Plan. This Plan was prepared by the Maricopa County Library Council, which is composed of library directors from all types and sizes of libraries: public, college, university, business or professional. The Regional Master Plan was sent to the MAG Library District Coordination Task Force. In May, the Management Committee considered the Plan and requested that the Maricopa County Library District Council hold four public meetings to solicit input on the proposed Plan.

13. Federal Fiscal Year FY 1997 MAG Federal Funds Final Closeout

Paul Ward stated that this program was adjusted in March and May of 1997 to reflect project delays and additional funding. On March 30, 1997, the Regional Council approved the Preliminary Close Out of the FY 1997 MAG Federally Funded program. Mr. Ward stated that the preliminary close out was necessary due to a higher than expected level of federal funds received at the beginning of FY 1997. Regional Council action allocated the additional funds to various eligible projects. Mr. Ward explained that on May 28, 1997, the Regional Council approved the Interim Close Out of the FY 1997 MAG Federally Funded program. The interim close out addressed projects requested for carry forward, what

to do with the funds released by carry forward projects, and to set MAG priorities for any redistributed obligation authority (OA) that MAG may receive. He informed Regional Council that under recent federal legislation, MAG will receive additional Supplemental OA which must be utilized this year. Mr. Ward displayed an overhead that detailed recommendations from the Transportation Review Committee (TRC) of how to utilize the remaining OA which must be obligated by September 30, 1997.

Mr. Ward explained that the amount recommended for the Pima Freeway project (\$1.2 million) represents approximately 70% of the Supplemental OA received, in line with existing MAG policies. He stated that if MAG was able to fully utilize the OA received, redistributed OA might also be made available and the request for new transit vehicles (\$1.6 million) was the TRC recommendation for the redistributed OA.

Chairman Scruggs asked the Regional Council if they had any questions, upon which none were received.

Mayor Gamez moved, Mayor Campana seconded, and it was unanimously carried to approve funding to the following projects: Mesa, Stapley Drive for \$595,000; Tempe; Curry Road \$32,175; the Regional Public Transportation Authority (RPTA), new transit vehicles for \$1.075 million; the Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT), Pima Freeway for \$1.2 million; RPTA, new transit vehicles with redistributed obligation authority \$1.6 million; and to loan ADOT any unused obligation authority to ensure that the MAG region does not lose any obligation authority.

14. MAG Priorities for Scoping of ADOT Construction Projects

Terry Johnson informed the Regional Council that the Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT) has initiated efforts to update their five-year Highway Construction Program. He stated that ADOT requires that the projects be scoped before they are placed in the Program. A workshop for the MAG region was hosted by the MAG Transportation Review Committee (TRC). Mr. Johnson stated that TRC reviewed the input from the workshop and recommended that the existing MAG priorities be recommended to ADOT. These include High Occupancy Vehicle (HOV) lane improvements and low-cost projects that were previously approved by Regional Council. Mr. Johnson stated that the Management Committee concurred with this recommendation.

Roc Arnett moved, Councilmember Donald Needham seconded, and it was unanimously carried to approve forwarding the existing MAG priorities: 1)HOV lanes on I-17 between I-10 and Dunlap Avenue; 2) HOV lanes on the Superstition Freeway between I-10 and Gilbert Road; 3) HOV lanes on the Squaw Peak Freeway between I-10 and Shea Boulevard and 4) the remaining list of the 18 low-cost projects to ADOT as the regional priorities for scoping and programming for ADOT discretionary funds.

Councilmember Sepulveda asked the definition of low-cost for the project and if the time table for submitting projects has been advanced.

Mr. Johnson stated that there was not an exact definition but would usually be less than \$1.0 million each. He explained that the time for submitting projects to ADOT has been advanced.

Councilmember Ken Forgia corrected an error in a date on the information provided.

15. Update on Arizona Works Pilot Program

Carol Kratz briefed the Regional Council on the revised welfare reform program which includes the Arizona Works Pilot. She stated that the Arizona State Legislature passed and Governor Symington signed into law, SB 1357 which revised the cash assistance program to conform to federal legislation and established an Arizona Works pilot program to privatize the delivery of welfare services in a portion of Maricopa County. This program replaces Aid to Families with Dependant Children. Ms. Kratz stated that families will no longer receive cash assistance as an entitlement. She stated that the program is a work program in which the recipient has a two-year time limit to return to work and a five-year lifetime for benefits. Ms. Kratz stated that the service area for the Arizona Works pilot program includes the East Valley cities, as well as Scottsdale, Paradise Valley, Cave Creek, Carefree, Guadalupe, other Indian communities and portions of the cities of Phoenix and Glendale. She stated that some of the municipal concerns are adequate funding, capped benefit levels, split jurisdictions, quality of service, RFP procurement process, sustainable wages and an ongoing means of communication with cities and local governments.

Ms. Kratz stated that this is presented to Regional Council for information and discussion.

Mayor Turner asked how the outlying rural communities will adhere to this type of program, and if this will be addressed in the pilot program. Ms. Kratz stated that the Welfare Reform Bill allocates \$2 million for transportation to assist people in rural areas to job training and jobs.

Mayor Frances Osuna asked if any community will be able to pull out of the pilot program because of the hardship it would cause. Ms. Kratz stated that many cities and towns have asked the same question and the answer was that the area was identified in statute.

Chairman Scruggs asked to whom letters could be addressed to request changes in the boundaries. Ms. Kratz suggested letters be sent to the Governor, legislative leadership, and to Dr. Linda Blessing, Director of the Arizona Department of Economic Security (DES).

Mayor Morales commented that the current system needs to be revamped, however, each city and town should be represented in discussions. Mayor Morales stated that the children will be the ones to get hurt. He stated that the support of all mayors is needed. Mayor Morales then asked how they plan to address the issue of the children.

Chairman Scruggs reminded the members that there will be no action on this item.

Councilmember Moya stated that if action is held on this item until September, it may be too late. Ms. Kratz stated that the Procurement Board will meet in August and the RFP will be out in November. Mrs. Kratz assured the Regional Council that she will keep them informed of all meetings regarding this issue. The Regional Council requested a draft letter for them to send individually to the Governor

and DES regarding the many concerns with this program. Mr. Bourey suggested that MAG draft a letter and send to each member for their additional input and approval. The Regional Council agreed.

Mayor Osuna stated that she will send a letter to each member requesting their support that Guadalupe be pulled out of the pilot program because of the hardship that it would cause.

Chairman Scruggs stated that this is not an easy time, and thanked everyone for their input.

Chairman Scruggs stated that she would like to make several announcements before the meeting closed. She announced that a progressive dinner would be held for the members of the Regional Council and their staff who have confirmed their dinner reservations. A floor plan for Suite 300 was distributed describing the different food stations. She stated that the Regional Council members and their staff would have an opportunity to tour the MAG offices.

Chairman Scruggs stated that we are arranging an open house for the public in early September. Information on this will be sent out at a later date.

Chairman Scruggs stated that she would like to take a moment to reflect on the 30-year anniversary of MAG and toast our new beginning in our new MAG headquarters. The first meeting of MAG was held on April 12, 1967. At that meeting, the need for a cooperative association to address regional challenges was discussed. Chairman Scruggs noted that we have demonstrated that we can work together to find cooperative solutions for our regional problems. Our challenges ahead are great, and she asked all members of the Regional Council to join in toasting the spirit and commitment in addressing these challenges.

Chairman Scruggs thanked staff for all their hard work, and a special thanks to Mr. Bourey.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

Chairman

Secretary